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Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc. Newsletter

January $\overline{2020}$

Special Edition: Reunion 2020

Celebrating 20 years of AMA's Museum Operation

We are excited to announce a new venue for our reunion along with lower costs by than 10%.

This is the year to return 'home' and reunite with friends long past.

The Loft at Blackburn Inn serves as Hospitality Suite and headquarters for all activities.

Museum and gift shoppe will be open daily 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Reunion Schedule

Thursday, April 16

6:00 PM Opening Reception Ironwood Country Club Cash bar
7:00 - 8:30 PMDinner - Ironwood Country Club
8:30 PM - Midnight Hospitality Suite open The Loft at the Blackburn Inn, Open Bar

Friday, April 17

The Loft at Blackburn Inn

8:00 AM Golfers Depart Blackburn Inn Waynesboro Country Club
8:30 AM Bus Tour Depart Blackburn Inn Destination TBD
9:00 AMSporting Clay Shoot The Flying Rabbit, Harrisonburg
7:00 PMBanquet Location either Blackburn Inn or Frontier Culture Museum Guest Speaker Gen. George W. Casey, Retired
9:00 PM - 12:00 Cash Bar

Saturday, April 18

11:00 AM	Founders Day Ceremony Augusta Stone Church Cemetery
1:00 PM	Lunch, AMA gym
2:00 PM Annual	Membership Meeting, AMA gym
6:00 PM	Bar Open Blackburn Inn
7:00 PM	Dinner Blackburn Inn

NOTE: The Blackburn Inn will be our meeting place this year for all events.

Registration

Blackburn Inn, The Loft
The Hotel Registration desk can
direct you to The Loft

Museum and PX:

Thursday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Friday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Saturday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Reunion 2020 Guest Speaker

Tentatively scheduled to speak Friday evening is **Gen. George W. Casey, Jr., Retired.**

Casey was commissioned through the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps in 1970 following graduation from Georgetown University. He served as Commanding General, Multi-National Force – Iraq, from June 2004 to February 8, 2007, and was in the army for his entire adult working life.

Accomplishments:

- Chief of Staff of the United States Army
- Multi-National Force Iraq
- Vice Chief of Staff of the United States Army
- 1st Armored Division
- Joint Warfighting Center
- 3rd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division

Some of his many Awards:

- Defense Distinguished Service Medal (4)
- Army Distinguished Service Medal (2)
- Legion of Merit (3)
- Defense Meritorious Service Medal
- Meritorious Service Medal

More information about General Casey can be found at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George W. Casey Jr.



George Casey is Distinguished Senior Lecturer of Leadership at Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell University.

He is also a Dean's Fellow at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

Tower of Power

The most successful reunion fund raiser of all time.

Since 1998, beginning with **Frank Williamson**, **'60**, tickets for bottles of Virginia Gentleman and other top-shelf spirits have been raffled off at every reunion.

The name "Tower of Power" comes from the one special bottle being held for the last two alumni in a replica of the AMA tower, pictured at right.

It's estimated that the Tower of Power has raised in excess of \$30,000 during reunions over the last 22 years. These funds have helped enable our museum fulfill it's mission of preserving AMA's heritage for ours and future generations.



New Headquarters Hotel

The Blackburn Inn



Our reunion headquarters for Reunion 2020 will be the Blackburn Inn, 301 Greenville Avenue, Staunton, Virginia 24401. The web address is www.blackburn-inn. com. The phone number for reservations is (540) 712-0601.

For a limited time, we have a limited block of rooms reserved are getting these rooms at a special rate of \$99.00. This rate will be good for reservations made now through 16 March 2020. After 16 March it will revert to the normal rate.

Our meeting area over the weekend will be the Penthouse Loft at the Blackburn Inn, complete with private elevator. This room is a district meeting area that can handle 60 people. It is complete with a roof top

patio that looks over downtown Staunton. For anyone that wishes to bring snacks we have a full kitchen in the loft to store items. I tentatively plan to also use this room for Reunion 2020 registration, and our open bar will be located there for Friday and Saturday night. There will be a cash bar in the Loft for Thursday night open until 10:00pm.



Thursday Night Mixer

Our Thursday night kick off will remain at Ironwood Country Club. *This is a great time to renew bonds with fellow cadets and instructors.* It has also proved over the years to be one of the best meals to be had during the weekend. There is an hour of visiting in the cash bar followed by our meal.

It's a special time during the reunion. Please try to get to the valley in time to enjoy Thursday evening.





CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit Organization Postage and Fees Paid Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation

American Airlines

We wish to acknowledge and thank American Airlines, the official airline for Reunion 2020, for their very generous donation of air miles to provide transportation for our guest speakers

Book your next flight at aa.com

Golf

If Golf is your thing, gather Friday morning at the Waynesboro Country Club for a 9 AM Shotgun start. We will depart the Blackburn Inn at 8:00. It's a four-person scramble (Captain's choice) will all proceeds going to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Anyone is welcome to join in.

Use every player's tee shot twice. Lowest score wins! 1st, 2nd and last place prized will be awarded plus longest drive, closest to the pin, and best putt.

FEES: \$100 per person which includes 18 holes, green tees, cart rental, box lunch, refreshments, goody bag, and a donation to the AMA Alumni Foundation.

Your help in gathering things for the goody bags is needed: golf balls, tees, towels, caps, umbrellas, even cash!

Contact Paul Poluito, '73, at cpp2q@virginia.edu

SPORTING CLAY SHOOT

The annual Sporting Clay Shoot will be held on Friday April 17. Shooters will depart Blackburn Inn at approximately 9:00 AM enroute to the Flying Rabbit Range in Harrisonburg.

\$25 is for registration which all goes to the Association.

Targets, ammo and if necessary, gun rental will be handled by the Flying Rabbit. Folks can expect to spend about \$50.

For more info, contact Blaine Clarke, '72, at blaine.clarke@comcast.net.

He can and will give you the full scoop, including costs, rules, location directions, lunch plans before, etc.